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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Fair, except rain near the coast.
Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair.

AN OPEN LETTER.

Gentlemen of the Oregon Legislature:

In the course of another month you will assemble at the capital to do your sworn duty by the People of the State of Oregon: The primary assumption is, that you will be loyal, honest, and as wise and kindly nature will permit, in the handling of public affairs. Your oaths of office form the predicate for the belief that you are going to Salem to do right. That many men have gone there under like circumstances and done wrong furnishes the ample reason for your making that predicate good. Officially, you are free agents in the tasks before you; actually, you are not. You are deeply and heavily responsible to a half million or more people, for every day of the forty you are in session. It is no junket you are to be on; it is, or should be, a meeting of trained, well-balanced business men for the purpose of disposing of the large and grave affairs of a great commonwealth; and a wide-open opportunity for the practical demonstration of a business-like, healthful, loyal and commendable spirit that animates and guides good citizenship, the world over.

We beg that you will observe the following suggestions as among the most essential to the prosperity and happiness of the State you represent: Think of Oregon before you think of a single county, not even excepting your own:

Stand pat for the defeat of every new bill that is presented, on the general principle that there is too much law on hand now:

Repeal every law that it is possible to repeal, on the hypothesis of radical relief to a law-ridden people:

Study every bill closely for the grafting element that is certain to be hidden in it; and if you can't find the graft, defeat the bill because it is not apparent, and therefore all the more dangerous:

Put the State of Oregon out of the Printing business for all time:

Crush out every suggestion for the establishment of any new departmental institution, of whatsoever character.

Economize, for forty days, each of twenty-four hours duration; make the session famous for the money that was not spent: The experience will be grateful to your constituents and honorable to yourselves:

Eschew politics from the moment the gavels fall in the two houses at the opening of the session; take the position of business-men, just for once in the history of the State:

Come home to your masters as clean and wholesome as you went away in the guise of their servitors:

Give your best thought and most of your time to correcting the transportation abuses now prevalent;

Put this legislature high on the records of deliberate, honorable, unassailable, irreproachable public service in the annals of the State, and the people will "rise up and call you blessed."

You may think this is all superlative and uncalled for, but unless you adhere to some such program as this, you will hear from the voters that sent you out to serve them. Of course, you do not need any such counsel, but we are giving it all the same, and will honor you, and herald you to all mankind as you shall observe, or ignore, it.

SAVE THE LAND-MARKS!

It is the duty of every civilized peo-

ple on earth to permanently mark all the indicia of its pioneer past; of its rugged road to the last and best of its achievements: So that those who shall come later may know the paths that led to the lofty plane, and honor the men and women that carved out the initial way. Oregon, like all of the Pacific west, is rich in such paths and spots made famous by the hardy host that hewed this tremendous territory from the fastnesses of a sealed desert, and that she should raise up monuments to signify, and dignify, these potent shrines of pluck and progress, before the remorseless mantle of commercialism shall have buried them from the sight and memory of man, is imperative.

The Historical Society of Oregon has made its plea to Congress for an appropriation of \$10,000 in this behalf, and especially in the interest of Fort Clatsop, the camp of Lewis and Clark, in 1803. That this project may not fail, it is essential that every Oregonian, and certainly every Clatsopian, should give voice and hand to urge the passage of the act, for which Senator Fulton stands sponsor at Washington. Send him a letter backing the matter; write to others; memorialize Congress through your lodges, and clubs and fraternities, and schools and in every relation that may be effective; and do it at once, as the short session does not permit much time to be wasted, in this or any other behalf.

TARIFF CONSIDERATION.

The National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle Manufacturers representing an invested capital of \$300,000,000 held its annual convention at Chicago, and adopted strong resolutions calling upon Congress for tariff revision and the adoption of a Reciprocity policy as follows:

Resolved, That we favor prompt tariff revision along such lines as will cause the least disturbance of present business conditions, and the executive committee is hereby instructed to act in accordance with this resolution.

Resolved, That this association again heartily approve and indorse the policy of reciprocity and urge upon Congress prompt action in this direction and that the executive committee is hereby instructed to use all due effort to promote that principle and make it an effective part of the national policy.

In view of the fact that the manufacturing interests of the country are commonly supposed to favor a retention of existing tariffs this action is highly significant. This is one of the leading organizations of its kind in America; and as indicating the depth of the feeling upon this subject among its members, it may be stated that during the session of the Convention a telegram from Wm. A. Fetzer of Middletown, Ohio, was read as follows: "Personal sickness and serious family

illness prevent my attending convention. An independent association to oppose prevailing tariff injustices is necessary unless present association acts definitely."

THE ECONOMIC FARMER.

There are many farmers in all sections of the country who do not study the proposition of saving their strength or that of help in their employ, but go at their work like a steam shovel into a bank of earth. Such men will often be seen closing a gate in the field and afterward jumping over the fence because they did not think about passing through until after it was closed. They will pack fodder corn on their back into the barn and feeding yard from the field without a thought of using a push cart or stone boat and horse for that purpose. They will be seen with water and slop pails in their hands carrying drink to their stock where an open trough or underground pipe would conduct the same into the pens and yards at a small expense and a great saving of strength and time, which means money, when help costs two dollars per day—the prevailing price for anything who wore trousers in the field this summer—regardless of his ability or willingness to do farm work in an intelligent manner.

FRAUD IN COFFEE.

Inferior grades of coffee cannot be put in ships' manifests as peas and beans, shipped from this country to Porto Rico and then reshipped from there to other countries and in some instances back to the United States, as high grade Porto Rican coffee, have been the subject of an investigation by the Department of Commerce and Labor. Instructions have been given to the collector of customs at New York to see to it that the manifests of vessels clearing for Porto Rico be examined with care to prevent the fraud, apprehend the perpetrators and prosecute them on charges of perjury.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The United States now holds the record of "farthest north," 87 degrees 6 minutes. This feat was accomplished by Commander Robert E. Peary of the United States Navy.

The Kansas editor who said, "The trousers of Bertha Krupp, the richest girl in the world, cost only \$2.50," perhaps trusted the reading of the proof to the office boy, who had never heard of a trowsersau.

The prejudice which existed a year ago among the farmers against the

auto is fast dying out. They recognize that it has come to stay and many of them now own and operate the most up-to-date road vehicles.

Corn cobs are for "maple syrup" and denatured alcohol. Corn and wheat are now to be used for making artificial rubber for automobile and bicycle tires and for golf balls, —in fact for any use to which rubber is put.

IN THE CITY THEATERS.

AT THE STAR.

The popular playhouse is a veritable hive of industry, preparing for the production of "The Light House by the Sea," which will be the first appearance of the Taylor company in Astoria. The company has just closed a successful season in Seattle and Mr. Gevurtg is pleased at having secured so clever and well known a company for the winter season here. The company arrived last night and are making preparations for what they hope to be a long stay. The old favorite, H. Blanchard, formerly with Lee Willard, is with us again.

He will appear in the role of Caleb Gale, the blind light-house keeper. The other members of the cast will be seen to advantage and will no doubt become favorites with the Astoria theater goers. The repertoire of the Taylor company encompasses the best plays to be had and the company are able to play them to the best advantage.

MACK SWAIN THEATER CO.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock and to-night at 8:15, the Swain company will present the great sensational melodrama, "The Midnight Express," at the Astoria Theater. It is an excellent play and well worth seeing. Tomorrow night, the company will begin the last week of their engagement here. A different play will be presented at each performance, the repertoire for the week comprising eight of the most popular dramas, selected from the twenty that the company have produced during their engagement here. The play for Monday night will be the great sensational scenic melodrama, "The World."

Pine Salve Carbolyzed acts like a poultice; highly antiseptic, extensively used for Eczema, for chapped hands and lips, cuts, burns.

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Frequently we may not secure staple articles for less money than some other dealers pay, but we invariably SELL CHEAPER, because we are satisfied with smaller profits.

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2. We do not give Discounts.
3. We are Large Manufacturers.
4. We are not Extravagant.

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We Are Not Extravagant

Do you grasp the meaning of those words and comprehend their connection with your purse This is not an extravagant store. The merchandise thoughts are always foremost. Brilliant and tawdry decorations are costly. Theatrical glare may please the fancy, but it increases the prices of goods. This store may be comparatively plain, but values are wholesome and distinctive.

SEE OUR WINDOWS

They speak eloquently of the rich store of proper things inside. Our window artist may give you an idea. Still it is worth the trip, even if you only come to look. And we will be glad to have you.

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